

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

Now that all the new eggs have been hatched in the basket's marked NBC, CBS, and ABC, it's time for a pause to consider if the results were worth the clucking. There is substantial evidence that the network creative hens spent too little time in the nest and far too many hours pecking and scratching in the Madison Avenue barnyard.

The Fall of '68 will be remembered as a season when the combined entertainment genius of Hollywood and New York was paid more, but risked less, in 23 new (or nearly new) ideas almost evenly divided among the three nets. Based on a simplified standard of judgment (did it advance TV programming, retard it or hold steady?) I found seven advanced, six retarded and 10 that were at mid-point on the mediocrity scale — with ABC clearly ahead of NBC and CBS in quality and inventiveness.

IT IS unfortunate that viewers must be thankful for even the smallest flicker of progress in a medium which promises such magnificence, but I would class the following regular new series as advancements — five for ABC and one each for NBC and CBS:

"60 Minutes," a reworking of the often-attempted "magazine concept" of documenting the news which will appear on alternate Tuesdays only, alas, at 10 p.m. (CBS);

"Journey To The Unknown" an adult series where the chills come from nightmares made in the far corners of the mind (Thursdays-British-ABC);

"The Outcasts," which has a new angle on the western stereotype with two excellent actors (Don Murray and Otis Young) playing a pair of Southern rejects adrift in a new society and grimly dependent on one another (Mondays ABC);

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" — despite its routine situation comedy, it is basically an adult love story made believable by the delicate acting of Edward Mulhare and Hope Lange, (Saturdays NBC); "The Land of the Giants" — a bizarre adventure whose spectacular technical effects outweigh a juvenile script, (Sundays ABC);

"That's Life" a new blend of familiar ingredients with an engaging star, Robert Morse (Tuesdays ABC); and "Here Come The Brides" a robust outdoor drama with a virile new star, Robert Brown (Wednesdays ABC).

THE 10 NEW series which are pleasantly holding their own — neither bad enough to be rejected nor sparkling enough to step forward: "The New Adventures of Huck Finn" (Sundays NBC); "Here's Lucy," (Tuesdays CBS); "Adam-12" Saturdays (NBC); "Mayberry RFD" (Mondays CBS); Phyllis Diller (Sundays NBC); "The Doris Day Show" (Tuesdays CBS); "Julia" (Tuesdays NBC); "The Outsider" (Wednesdays NBC); "The Name of the Game" (Friday NBC); and "The Ugly Girl in Town" (Thursday ABC).

Six of the new series had more faults than merits in my estimation. CBS had four and ABC two: "The Don Rickles Show" a variety series high in vulgarity and low in taste (Fridays ABC); "The Good Guys," a big, firm step backward (Wednesday CBS); "Lancer" an ineffectual paste-up of parts clipped from "Bonanza," "The Big Valley" and "High Chaparral" (Tuesdays CBS); "The Mod Squad," a phony game played by three sullen young adults in the name of law enforcement (Tuesday ABC); "Hawaii Five-O" — super sleuths in grass-skirt land (Thursdays CBS); and "Blondie," an antique reproduction in a contemporary setting which proves you can't mix traditional and modern unless you're very clever (Thursday CBS).

Back to the barnyard, fellows.

Beverly Wins Health Endorsement

Republican Assemblyman Robert G. Beverly has been endorsed for reelection in the 46th District by the Allied Health Professions.

The organization is comprised of representatives of the Legislative Committees of the California Medical Association, California State Dental Association, Southern California State Dental Association, California Hospital Association, California Nurses' Association, California Pharmaceutical Association, California Association of Dispensing Opticians, California Podiatry Association, California Veterinary Medical Association, California Chapters of the American Physical Therapy Association, and the Public Health League of California.

Given Grant

Mrs. Hazel Henry, a west High School Home Economics teacher, has been granted a tuition scholarship for the 1968 In-Service Education Program for Home Economics Teachers in Food Service Occupation to be held during October and November at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa.

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NEW DEALERSHIP . . . One of the newest additions to the area is Holiday Chevrolet, located at 315 N. Pacific Coast Hwy., Redondo Beach. The new agency offers a complete selection of Chevrolets, as well as fine used cars and a complete service department. President Larry Miller, who also is a principal in the sports and imported car firm of Holiday Motors in Sherman Oaks, has been in the automobile business for more than 20 years. Holiday Chevrolet is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday. The service department is open from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Seattle Firm to Market Temcor Geodesic Domes

Zesbaugh, Inc., Seattle-based distributor of engineered building products, has been named sales representative for Western Washington and Alaska by TEMCOR, exclusive manufacturer and erector of all-aluminum geodesic domes, it was announced by Robert Di Mc Cauley, TEMCOR sales manager.

David E. Thomas, head of Zesbaugh's product design consulting service, will direct the marketing program, according to R. L. Zesbaugh, president.

TEMCOR, of Torrance manufactures and erects the geodesic dome which can span 200 feet without interior support. Designed on the principle of geodesic geometry, it is made of space-trussed aluminum components and heavy-gauge, diamond-shaped anodized aluminum panels.

SUCH A dome housed "Seward Hall," an exhibition at Alaska's Centennial Exposition, near Fairbanks. The gold-anodized dome now is used for concerts, dog shows, and stadium events, and planning is under way to use it this winter as an indoor skating rink, and, eventually as a convention center. The Centennial site is now called "Alaskaland," an official Visitor Information Center which displays, in addition to the "Gold Dome," authentic buildings, artifacts and relics of rare and extinct native architecture, which have been preserved.

THE DOMES, with as much as 1,110 faceted aluminum panels, are manufactured in TEMCOR's Torrance plant and shipped to the construction site, where four men can usually erect them in four-to-five weeks.

Robbery Suspect Nabbed

A pistol-packing liquor store owner foiled an armed robbery early Tuesday, holding the suspect at bay until police arrived.

The victim told police that the suspect entered Corner Liquor, 18915 Crenshaw Blvd., shortly after midnight and waited for customers to leave. The suspect approached the checkstand as if to make a purchase and pulled a knife when the owner opened the cash drawer.

The victim said he told the suspect to help himself to the cash, pulling a gun from his pocket as the suspect was gathering up the money.

The store owner then ordered the suspect to drop his knife and the \$48 and lie down on the floor.

When police arrived, they found suspect Robert Lee (Mac) Esau prostrate on the floor. The 19-year-old resident of Tigard, Ore., was charged with armed robbery.

Taking no chances, the store owner had also tripped a silent alarm.

Seminar Slated

Mrs. Norma Willson, a West High School English teacher will serve as a member of the panel discussing "Composition as Reflected in the New Framework and Applied in the Classroom" during the Rancho Des Robles English Conference, Nov. 1, 2, and 3 at California State Polytechnic College Education Center at San Dimas.

People . . . On the Move

(Promotions, Assignments, Affiliations)

James L. Heatt of Manhattan Beach has been promoted to manager of the Electro - Optics Department of the Sensor Systems Laboratory of the System Group of TRW Inc., according to an announcement by D. M. Culler, laboratory manager.

William Abourezk of Palos Verdes has been promoted to manager of the Electronic Data Systems Laboratory of the Systems Group of TRW Inc., according to Dr. R. C. Booton Jr., operations manager for Electronic Information Systems.

Peter G. White of Palos Verdes Peninsula has been appointed manager of the Display and Imaging Department of the Systems Laboratory of the Systems Group of TRW Inc.

DeVere D. Shife, 2201 Ripley Ave., Redondo Beach, was graduated from the Southern California Edison Company's Distribution Technician School. Other graduates included Ronald A. Griswold and Arthur C. Malone, also of Redondo Beach.

Raymond B. Slaney of Rolling Hills has been promoted to the position of director of planning and control for the Systems Group of TRW Inc.

Gale Gardner of Redondo Beach has been named assistance vice president and manager of the Sunset office of United States National Bank.

Francis T. Fox, general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Airports, has submitted his resignation to the Board of Airport Commissioners to become director of aviation for the Howard Hughes organization.

Wallace L. Haas, of Inglewood, chief clerk of Bethlehem Steel Corporation's Torrance fabricating works, has retired after 43 years of service.

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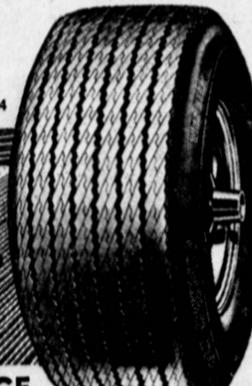
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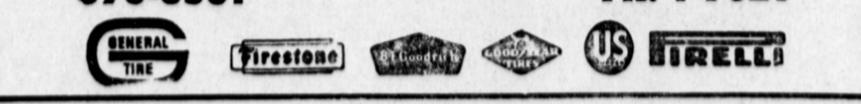
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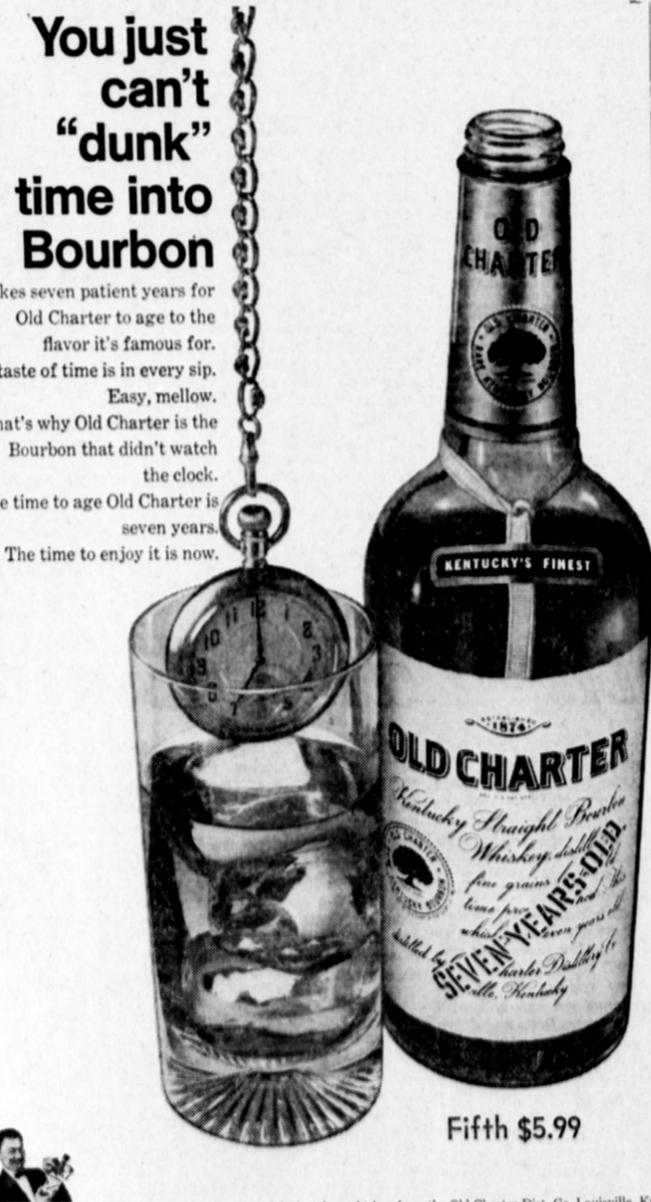
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